

effectual administration of justice—the necessity of the equity judge residing conveniently to his court, and of his exclusive devotion to the business of equity. These advantages cannot be supplied by any circuit system even if punctually and patiently persevered in. Even if the judge were to be constantly ready at his residence distant from the office of the court for equity business and without any intervening common law occupation, the inconvenience would be great, and a source of expense and often serious injury to the suitor. The transportation to and fro of the papers of the court, and the journeying of solicitors would prove most vexatious. That which should be the characteristic office of a court of equity, its capacity for prompt preventive action, and for speeding the course of justice in the controversies submitted to it, would thus be almost extinguished and the most benignant judicial authority would be inert, because the avenue to it would be embarrassed with costly and dilatory difficulties. Those who are conversant with chancery litigation are well aware how many are the exigencies of that species of controversy, and how many, frequently, are the branches into which a suit may spread—each a distinct topic for adjudication on claims engrafted upon an original suit. In such cases especially, the necessity is most marked of having the judge near the solicitors, and the accountant of the court. But it is needless to exemplify by cases or classes of cases the importance of ready access to the equity tribunal and a constant and vigilant supervision by that tribunal at the very scene of its business. In one of the judicial districts (the fifth) a distinguished exception, it is said, to the usual equity administration of county courts, the explanation of the equity courts' efficiency in the transaction of extensive business which, to a great degree, however, consists of undisputed cases, will be found in the circumstance of one of the judges being a resident of the seat of justice and daily sitting there for cases in equity.

To show the extensive business of our court of Chancery it is sufficient to mention, that there are now on its docket in cases of bills and petitions, 1650 cases—a large portion of the cases in chancery are from the sixth judicial district; and cases originated even in the county court of that district, are often removed to the court of Chancery, so much more uniform and sure is the tenor of its operation. And notwithstanding all this, there are now open on the